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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/936, 708 09/24/97 CLAAR

J 080398.P109

EXAMINER

LM01/1228
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LEE, P		
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	<i>J</i>

2747

DATE MAILED:

12/28/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. 08/936,708	Applicant(s) Claar et al
Examiner Ping Lee	Group Art Unit 2747



Responsive to communication(s) filed on Sep 24, 1997

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle* 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

-- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES --

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 250 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 250 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because line 1, "Graphical user interface methods are described" should be deleted. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Objections

4. Claims 5 and 7 are objected to because of the following informalities: line 2, "the step of said second display portion, including". Appropriate correction is required.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Langford et al (5,206,929).

Langford et al, in Figures 2-13, discloses an offline editing system that is the same method and apparatus for controlling a plurality of audio processing modules 50 in a player/recorder system (Fig. 2) as specified in claims 1-18 of the present invention, each of the plurality of audio processing modules 50 having one or more input/output channels(50a,50b), the apparatus comprising a processor CPU; a display 52 including a first display portion 52a produced by the processor, the first display portion 52a including one or more control boxes to control corresponding I/O channels (e.g. audio tracks) of the plurality of audio processing modules 50; a second display portion 35 produced by the processor 30, the second display portion 35 including a central control mechanism 30 to control all of the one or more I/O channels (Fig. 9) of the plurality of audio processing module 50; a keyboard 31 or mouse 33 to select one of the control boxes (Fig. 3) corresponding to one of the I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules 50 and the central control mechanism 30; an I/O device 38 to transmit a control

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command (e.g. record/stop) associated with the one of the control boxes selected by the keyboard 31 or mouse 33 to an audio processing module 50 having the one of the I/O channels; an audio processing module 44 to receive the control command and perform a function assigned to the control command (Fig. 5); and an I/O device 48 to transmit a global control command associated with the central control mechanism 30 to the plurality of audio processing modules 50, each of which is to receive the global control command and performs a function (e.g. 108,110,130,131) assigned to the control command with respect to all of the I/O channels (Fig. 9).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Schuler discloses an analog/digital video and audio picture composition apparatus.

8. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 308-5359 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ping W. Lee whose telephone number is (703) 305-4865.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


PING W. LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2700

pwl
December 19, 1999